

Message Text

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INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3181

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, KS, KN, CH

SUBJ: KOREA AT 29TH GA: CHINA AND NORTH KOREA

1. AUSTRALIAN MISOFF CAMPBELL, ON PERSONAL BASIS, PASSED US TEXT OF REPORT RECEIVED SEPT 13 FROM AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY PEKING COVERING CONVERSATION ON KOREA WHICH CAMPBELL ASSUMES TOOK PLACE SEPT 12. WHILE USLO PEKING MAY ALSO HAVE REPORT OF THESE CHINESE COMMENTS, WE TRANSMIT FULL TEXT IN BELIEF IT GIVES USEFUL INSIGHT ON FACTORS IN DELAYED CIRCULATION OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION.

2. ROK MISSION MINISTER HAM SEPT 14 TOLD US ROKG HAD ALSO RECEIVED SUBSTANCE OF AUSTRALIAN REPORT.

3. TEXT FOLLOWS:

KOREA

1. DURING A RECENT DISCUSSION ON OTHER MATTERS SHEN WEI-LIANG, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES, TREATY AND LAW DEPARTMENT, MFA, WAS UNEXPECTEDLY WILLING TO BE DRAWN ON THE KOREAN POLICY LINE HE GAVE SOME "PERSONAL VIEWS" TO ILLUSTRATE THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT'S APPROACH TO THE PROBLEM.

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2. THE DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N. COMMAND AND THE WITHDRAWAL OF

U.S. FORCES WERE INTER-RELATED BUT DISTINCTLY SEPARATE QUESTIONS. THE ONE CAPABLE OF SPEEDY SOLUTION, THE OTHER TO BE DEALT WITH OVER A LONGER TERM. INDEED, DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N.C. COULD BE ACHIEVED THIS YEAR. HE WAS SCORNFUL OF POSSIBLE DPRK OPPOSITION TO A FORMULA WHICH DID NOT TIE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES TO THE DISSOLUTION OF THE U.N.C. AND ASSERTED THAT THE EXTENT TO WHICH DPRK COULD INFLUENCE A U.N. DECISION DEPENDED ON THE STRENGTH OF ITS REPRESENTATION AT THE ASSEMBLY. "OF COURSE" IT WAS NOT A MEMBER AND WOULD NOT GAIN ENTRY THIS YEAR.

3. IT WAS UNREALISTIC TO SUGGEST THAT PRECIPITATE WITHDRAWAL OF U.S. FORCES FROM THE SOUTH WOULD INTRODUCE AN ELEMENT OF INSECURITY WHICH THE DPRK MIGHT SEEK TO EXPLOIT AND SO BRING CHINA INTO DIRECT CONFRONTATION WITH JAPAN. CHINA HAD NO TROOPS IN THE NORTH, DID NOT INTEND TO INTRODUCE ANY, AND JAPAN COULD NOT JUSTIFY ANY FORM OF MILITARY INVOLVEMENT OR SUPPORT IN THE SOUTH. THE DPRK WOULD NOT ACT ON ITS OWN AND WAS UNLIKELY TO HAVE THE SUPPORT OF USSR AS THAT COUNTRY HAD EMBARKED UPON HYPOCRITICAL POLICY OF PURSUING FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH ROK: AND "ANYHOW, THE U.S. WOULD NOT PULL OUT SO FAST".

4. SHEN, LIKE MOST OTHER FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIALS, IS NOT GIVEN TO PERSONAL COMMENT, ESPECIALLY IN THE PRESENCE OF THREE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE MINISTRY AT A FORMAL INTERVIEW. WE MUST ASSUME THAT HIS REMARKS REFLECT OFFICIAL THINKING.
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